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Wells Fargo to give \$16,000 to nonprofit groups in honor of three Washington County employee volunteers

Three nonprofit groups will receive a total of \$16,000 in honor of Wells Fargo employee volunteers who either live and/or work in Washington County.

The donations are being made through Wells Fargo's Volunteer Service Award program. The 39-year-old program gives cash grants to schools and nonprofit groups on behalf of Wells Fargo employees to recognize their valuable contributions to the community.

Beaverton resident Benny Van Raden, an international operations manager in Portland, won \$10,000 for Emanuel Children's Hospital in Portland. Van Raden was one of only 16 Wells Fargo employees across the nation -- and the only one in Oregon -- to win a \$10,000 award this year.

For the past nine years Van Raden has been sewing flannel blankets for Emanuel. The hospital gives them to some of the babies born there, uses them to cover the incubators in the neo natal ward and also gives them to young surgical patients to cuddle.

The materials to make a blanket costs about \$3, she said. The \$10,000 grant will thus pay for about 3,300 blankets.

Van Raden has been a Wells Fargo employee for 16 years. She has won four previous Volunteer Service Awards for Emanuel in the past eight years, each for \$1,000. The hospital also used those grants to purchase the fabric and thread for the blankets.

The other grants included:

- \$5,000 for Transition Projects in Portland in honor of Tigard resident **Michelle Taylor**, who works as an operational risk consultant in Beaverton. Taylor has volunteered for Transition Projects since 2009. The organization serves the basic needs of individuals experiencing homelessness and provides the necessary resources to help them transition back into housing. Taylor also won a \$1,000 award last year for Transition Projects.
- \$1,000 for the Mt. Hood chapter of Bikers Against Child Abuse (BACA) in honor of **Jen Davis**, who works as a consumer loan underwriter in Beaverton. BACA volunteers create a safer environment for abused children by providing them physical, emotional and financial support. They work in conjunction with local and state officials who are already in place to protect children. Davis has supported BACA for three years. This was the first time she has won a Volunteer Service Award.

Honoring Volunteers Since 1978

This year Wells Fargo will provide grants totaling \$482,000 to organizations in honor of 186 employees through this program. The grants range from \$1,000 to \$25,000.

The Volunteer Service Award program started in 1978. Wells Fargo encourages its employees to nominate their co-workers or themselves to recognize the outstanding efforts of the volunteer and the nonprofit organization.

An internal selection committee reviewed more than 600 nominations this year. The committee chose the winners on the basis of the nominees' dedication to the nonprofit group, how much time they volunteer for it, the effectiveness of their work and the potential impact of the grant on the community.

About Wells Fargo

Serving the needs of Oregonians since 1852, Wells Fargo & Company (NYSE: WFC) is a nationwide, diversified, community-based financial services company with \$1.9 trillion in assets. It provides banking, insurance, investments,

mortgage, and consumer and commercial finance through more than 8,500 locations; 13,000 ATMs; and the Internet (wellsfargo.com). Wells Fargo has repeatedly been ranked one of the most generous companies regionally and nationally. Last year Wells Fargo donated \$281.3 million to 14,900 nonprofits. Its employees volunteered 1.73 million hours for their communities.

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